IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No: 49931-0033

Applicant(s): Edward W. MERRILL et al. Confirmation No.: 8881

App. No.: 09/764.445 Examiner: S. Berman

Filing Date: January 19, 2001 Group Art Unit: 1711

Title: RADIATION AND MELT TREATED ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR

WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE PROSTHETIC DEVICES

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 CFR § 1.114

United States Patent and Trademark Office Mail Stop RCE Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

Applicants herein respond to the Office Action mailed May 25, 2006 (Paper No. 20060520). Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal on November 27, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments to the application and request reconsideration of the rejections of record in view of the following remarks.

Applicants petition for a five-month extension of time, as well as any other needed extension, and provide the requisite fee herewith. Please debit any underpayments, or credit any overpayments, to firm deposit account no. 50-3840.